

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No.: 10/615,938

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1-4 have been designated with the legend "Prior Art."

Attachment: 13 Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 have been examined and have been provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. Also, claims 1-6, 9-12, 15-21, and 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), and claims 7, 8, 13, 14, 22, and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

I. Rejection under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over the claims of U.S. Application No. 10/242,666 (“the ‘666 application”) and U.S. Patent No. 6,344,715 to Tokunaga et al. (“Tokunaga”)

Claims 1-24 have been provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 17-36 of the ‘666 application in view of Tokunaga. Applicants submit that the ‘666 application does not claim, and Tokunaga does not suggest, the claimed reset means, reset step, and reset unit recited in claims 1, 10, and 16. Moreover, the ‘666 application does not claim, and Tokunaga does not suggest, the features of claims 2-9, 11-15, and 17-24 at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1, 10, or 16.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Tokunaga

Claims 1-6, 9-12, 15-21, and 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tokunaga. Applicants submit that the claims are patentable over the cited reference.

A. Claim 1

Claim 1 relates to a display device that comprises a display panel having a plurality of unit light emission areas, and each unit light emission area includes a first discharge cell and a second discharge cell. In addition, the device comprises a reset means that induces a reset discharge across a column electrode and a row electrode pair in each second discharge cell.

On the other hand, Tokunaga does not disclose or suggest at least the claimed reset means. Specifically, the Examiner maintains that Fig. 6 of the reference discloses a first discharge cell S and a second discharge cell SL. Also, Fig. 4 of Tokunaga shows a reset process Rc in which reset pulses RP_x and RP_y are applied to the row electrodes X₁ to X_n and Y₁ to Y_n to induce a reset discharge. However, the reset process Rc does not induce a reset discharge between a column electrode and a row electrode pair in the alleged second discharge cell SL. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable over the reference.

B. Claims 2-9

Since claims 2-9 depend upon claim 1, Applicants submit that they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

C. Claim 10

Since claim 10 contains features that are similar to the features discussed above in conjunction with claim 1, Applicants submits that claim 10 is patentable for similar reasons.

D. Claims 11-15

Since claims 11-15 depend upon claim 10, Applicants submit that they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

E. Claim 16

Since claim 16 contains features that are similar to the features discussed above in conjunction with claim 1, Applicants submits that claim 16 is patentable for similar reasons.

F. Claims 17-24

Since claims 17-24 depend upon claim 16, Applicants submit that they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Tokunaga and U.S.P. 2002/0050960 to Setoguchi et al. (“Setoguchi”)

Claims 7, 8, 13, 14, 22, and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tokunaga in view of Setoguchi. Since such claims depend upon claim 1, 10, or 16 and since Setoguchi does not cure the deficient teachings of Tokunaga with respect to claims 1, 10, and 16, Applicants submit that claims 7, 8, 13, 14, 22, and 23 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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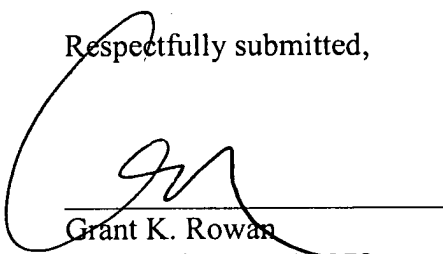
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Date: January 17, 2006